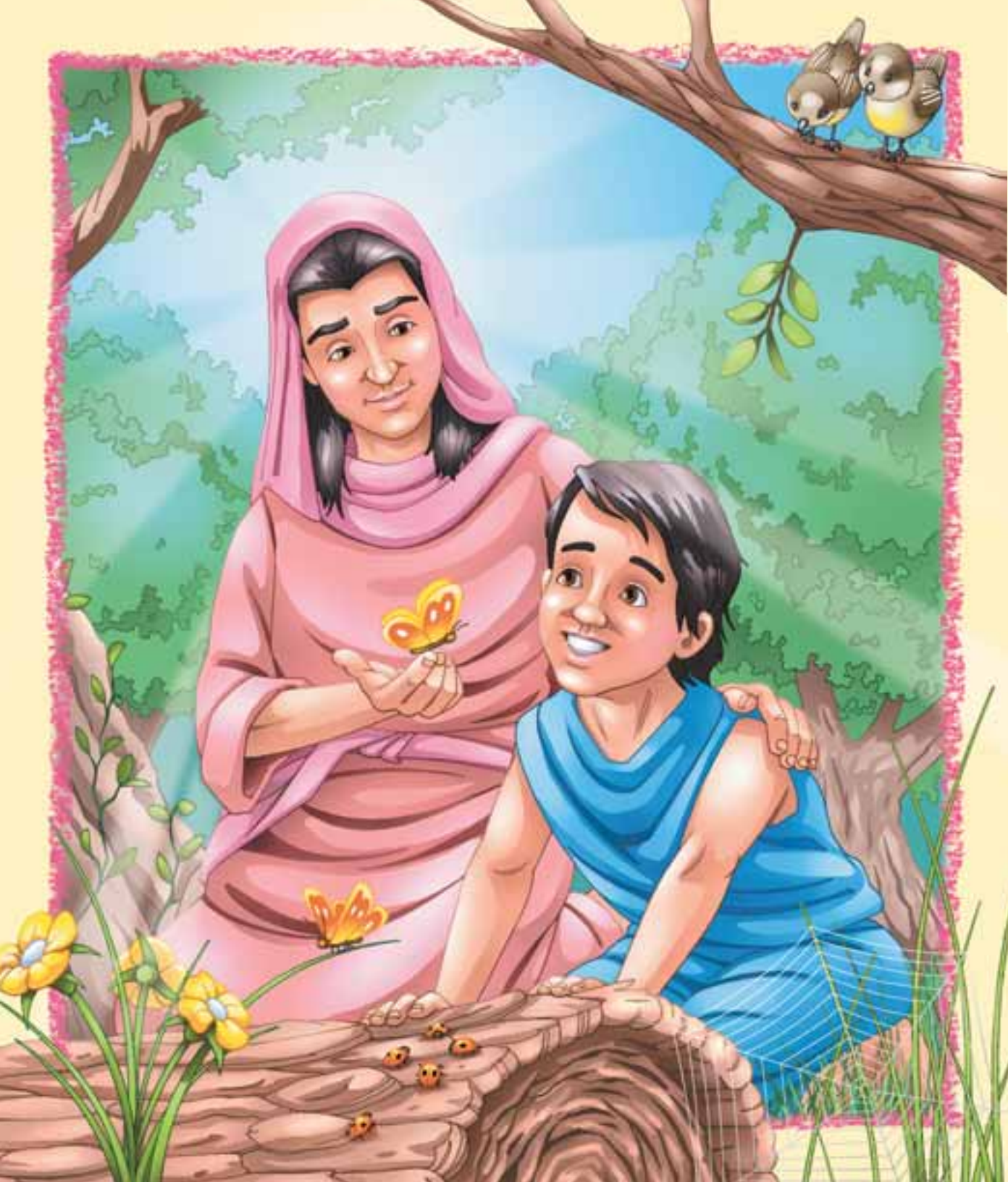




LESSON 1

REFERENCES: LUKE 2:39, 40, 51, 52; *THE DESIRE OF AGES*, PP. 68-71.

A Child Like Me

How do you show someone that you love them? Do you give them lots of hugs? Are you kind to them? Do you give them presents? Do you do what they ask? Do you help them?



J

esus was little just like you. He didn't go to nursery school. He stayed home with His mother, Mary. Every day she taught Him about God. She told Him stories about Adam and Eve,

Noah and the ark, David and Goliath. She taught Him to pray. He probably said, "Dear Heavenly Father, Thank You for loving Me. Amen." His mother taught Him songs about God like the ones you learn in Sabbath School.

Jesus and Mary often went for nature walks. They listened to the birds sing. They watched beetles climb over logs and spiders spin their webs. They studied the dew on the grass. They watched the animals play. They looked at the changing colors of the sky as the sun set. As they watched all of this Mary told Jesus that God had made the world and everything in it.

Memory Verse

"Then he went down to Nazareth . . . and was obedient."

LUKE 2:51, NIV.

The Message

We are like Jesus when we obey and help.

Jesus' family lived in a small house, but it was clean. Jesus helped His mother around the house. He helped set the table for dinner. He helped dry the dishes. He made His bed. He helped Mary make bread. Whatever His mother asked Him to do, He did it cheerfully.

Jesus helped His father take care of their animals. He fed them and gave them water. He helped Joseph fix things. When Jesus was older, He helped Joseph in his carpenter shop.

Jesus was kind to neighbors and their children. He was helpful when He saw that someone had a need, such as helping the grandmother down the street carry her firewood (*pretend carrying heavy load*) or making a sad child laugh (*smile and laugh*).

Jesus had time to play, too. The other boys in His neighborhood liked to play with Him. When it was time to come in and His mother called Him, He came quickly.

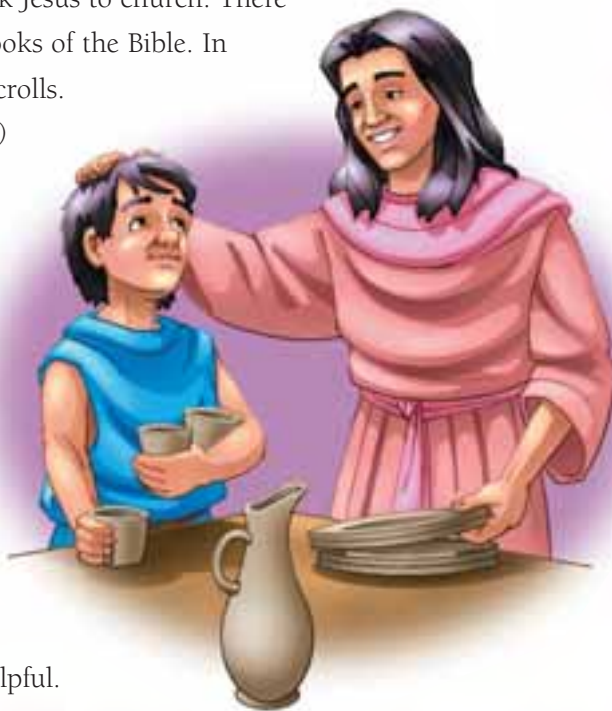
Every Friday evening Jesus' family ate a special meal to welcome the Sabbath. Jesus helped light the Sabbath candles for their meal. Then He listened carefully as Joseph prayed and talked about God.

On Sabbath Mary and Joseph took Jesus to church. There He heard the priests read from the books of the Bible. In those days the Bible was written on scrolls.

(Show your child an example of a scroll.)

A scroll is a rolled-up piece of paper with words written on it. Jesus listened carefully to the words from the scroll. He learned the words and could recite them from memory.

Jesus sang songs while He worked. People were glad to pass by His house because He was always singing. He made them feel happy. But most of all He made His family happy by obeying and being helpful.



Do and Say

SABBATH

Each day this week, review the lesson story, and practice the memory verse together.

Then he. Point upward.

went down to . . . Drop hand downward with
Nazareth . . . palm up.

. . . and was . . . Hands on forehead; opening
obedient. . . . palms, bring hands forward
to waist level.

Luke 2:51 Palms together, then open.

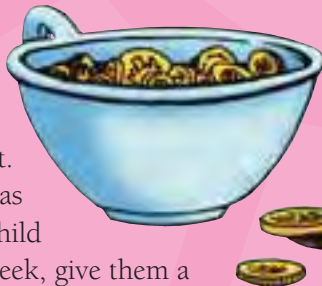
Ask Jesus to help you be like He was as a child.

SUNDAY

Read the Bible story together. Ask: How did Jesus' mommy and daddy teach Him? How did Jesus help at home? Do you think Jesus always obeyed? Was Jesus happy? Help your child "read" the memory verse from the Bible.

MONDAY

Show your child Luke 2:39, 40, 51, and 52 in the Bible and read it. Ask: What was Jesus like as a child? Each time your child obeys or helps you this week, give them a coin to put in a cup. At the end of the week, take it to Sabbath School as a special offering. Or have your child use the Good Helper Wheel made in Sabbath School and select a way to help today.



TUESDAY

Help your child put carrot tops, yams, or potatoes in a container of water and watch them grow. Each time you look at them together, remind your child that they are growing more and more like Jesus.



WEDNESDAY

Let your child invite a guest for a meal. Let your child help plan the meal.

Sing "When a Mother Calls," and have your child pretend to be the baby animals that come when called.

THURSDAY

Have your child help clean up toys before going to bed. Encourage them to say, "I'm helping just like Jesus!" Sing a helping song before prayer.

FRIDAY

Have evening worship by candlelight as Jesus' family did. Light candles at sundown. Talk about what your family did to get ready for Sabbath today. Help your child teach the memory verse to the family.

If your child has been putting coins in a cup, remember to take their offering to Sabbath School tomorrow.